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To Chief SR
Info Chief WIE

From Chief of Station. []

PP 5328

23 February 1962

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SOURCES/METHODS EXEMPTION 3858

YAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

DATE 2/20/62

AERODYNAMIC/REDSKIN
Status Report on AECASSOWARY/29

1. In order of priority, AECASSOWARY/29 is deemed able to mount five distinct types of operations under [] guidance: short and long REDSKIN travel missions to the Ukraine, contact operations at international conferences, contact operations with Ukrainian maritime personnel in Antwerp, REDCAP/ICIMPROV and, fifthly, occasional XUCAFE press and mailing operations. Each of these functions will be described separately below.

2. AECASSOWARY/29 has been sufficiently successful that [] would like to request Headquarters approval for him to transfer to FOC and remain under this Station for at least two years. Originally it was believed it would be at least six months before any reasonable estimate of his value to this Station would be possible. He has made enough progress in REDSKIN during the two and a half months to justify this recommendation. Even so, [] probably would have delayed this recommendation one more month until REDCAP, contact operations and Antwerp maritime contacts had been more thoroughly studied. Now, granted AECASSOWARY/29's plan to return briefly to New York to see his son and marry, it seems appropriate to decide one way or another, both on the basis of progress to date and the Station's need for a more substantial infra-structure in the Soviet field. His two main lines of effort have been: first, to locate prospective agents for REDSKIN trips and, secondly, the recruitment and exploitation of singleton spotters-assessors in Brussels, Louvain, Liege, Ghent and Antwerp. All other activities have been accorded secondary importance and emphasis to these.

3. REDSKIN. AECASSOWARY/29 has located two candidates, willing and qualified for REDSKIN travel operations and has gained the unwitting confidential cooperation of spotters in all the Belgian cities mentioned above except Antwerp. Details on the identities of these prospective agents and spotters will be forwarded separately. All of the people involved have university degrees and most are already well advanced in their private professions. The REDSKIN mission candidates are aged 22 and 26 respectively. None of the spotters are below the age of 35. Their professions run from scientist, to neurologist, to PhD candidate in Political Science, to lawyer, to orient. All of them have been checked out in the Station cards and with the [] with negative derogatory results. One of them was a recruited agent of this Station during the Brussels World Fair (see OBRA 0640 of 21 February 1958 and DIR 07884 of 12 February 1958). This man had the cryptonym []. None of these persons has been given the slightest indication of AECASSOWARY/29's connection with GUYKE.

4. The Station has been both surprised and gratified to learn that among Ukrainians settled in Belgium there is a small elite and not just coal miners, menial job holders and wives of Flemish factory workers, as had been feared. This elite is by no means vast. For example, there are only 5 Ukrainian graduates from Louvain University in Belgium (this is the only university Ukrainians have attended). In addition, there are some 70 Ukrainian men with Belgian high school degrees. Some of the latter have had a year or so of college education as well. At the moment there are 7 male students at the University of Louvain, one of which has been recruited for a REDSKIN mission (see OBRA 0640). There are about 2000 Ukrainian women in Belgium, out of which AECASSOWARY/29 has turned up 7 or 8 attractive candidates. (One of the latter may prove to be a woman in the REDCAP file since she is in contact with the Soviet embassy in Copenhagen. One of these women see OBRA 16856. So much for REDSKIN into the USSR. However, the above brief survey does not preclude AECASSOWARY/29 sending other agents to the Ukraine, and perhaps even seek out former members of the Soviet diplomatic corps in the Ukraine. He is to be recommended to the Director for further details. Please supply information on possible candidates from the USSR.

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and meeting large numbers of people. He deals through informants primarily in order to preserve his own security. Almost all the information above comes from confidential spotters. When one considers that REDSKIN missions are only one, albeit the most important, of five types of operations mentioned above, the Station feels that the progress he has made is more than satisfactory.

5. As mentioned in earlier dispatches, AECASSOWARY/29 and the Station are looking not only at targets in Belgium, but also considering Belgium as a training and dispatch focal point for Ukrainian agents residing permanently in other countries, such as France and Holland.

6. Contact Operations. While the opportunities for this type of operation in Belgium during 1962 is still a relatively unknown quantity, the Station is now in the process of checking out via an ODAED officer possible Ukrainian attendance at various Congresses slated to take place in Belgium throughout 1962. If Ukrainians are expected to attend any of these, AECASSOWARY/29 should be able to find suitable Ukrainian residents in Western Europe to attend or to monitor around the fringes and make contact with Soviet Ukrainian defectors. To be suitable, a Ukrainian living abroad should naturally be in a position to speak freely and easily to the major topic of the conference. AETALSTOWARY/29 has had a fair amount of experience in behind-the-scenes direction of such operations in former past. If desired AECASSOWARY/29 and his subagents can be made available for contact operations in other parts of Western Europe. For example, the approaching Belgian Youth Festival seems to AECASSOWARY/29 and the Station to be a suitable arena for contact operations and KUCAGE work. If Headquarters approves, it would like to to send some young man to write his Soviet girlfriend and suggest that she too try to go to the Youth Festival. If this young man and the girlfriend did turn up in Helsinki simultaneously, the plan would call for him to re-establish and establish a clandestine communications channel with her as a substitute for international open letter mail. The young man in Aachen is identical with the subject of OBBA. If Headquarters plans any contact or mailing operations in Helsinki in connection with AER-EMIVE, AECASSOWARY/29 would like to pass on the suggestion to AECASSOWARY/2 that it would not be too early to start preparing and printing pamphlets, if this has not already been done.

7. REDCAP/ICIMPROVE. One of the 7 or 8 Ukrainian women who might be of operational interest is reputed to be a good, solid anti-Communist nationalist who has good contacts with the Soviet Embassy where she pleads cases of Ukrainians who want to go back to see their relatives. Through a suitable contact, AECASSOWARY/29 will try to find out what she knows.

8. Antwerp. Here the surface has barely been scratched. The problem is to find who is living in Antwerp now who could have contact with sailors or, better, who logically could move to Antwerp after being trained in contact operations and elicitation. It probably will not be easy to find the right person. It may be impossible. KUTUB and not KUCAGE would be the sole purpose of such an endeavor.

9. KUCAGE. AECASSOWARY/29 has written one anonymous article on the Ukrainian problem which is now in the hands of ~~Le Monde Belge~~ and may be published. A second article is in preparation. Some twenty copies of the ANTHROPOUE bulletin have been mailed by AECASSOWARY/29 to addresses in the Soviet Union. Some mailing operations to Ukrainian members of Soviet Embassies in the same ten areas and Primos are also under discussion, but will be cleared with Headquarters first.

10. Efficiency. AECASSOWARY/29 takes a gratifyingly aggressive yet cautious attitude towards operations. He is a good P/A. He has been a factor in laying the groundwork for travel and contact operations which the Station initially would not have expected him to reach until about mid-May. He keeps quite busy and to date has made no blunders of commission or omission. From the under-signer's point of view he has taken just the right amount of initiative and sought the right amount of advice and supervision from the Station except in one respect. He has sought and received an exceptionally high amount of advice in finding living quarters and getting his documentation straightened out. Once these problems are solved and his facility with everyone, he should be operating at capacity.

11. NOTES. From the outset he has stated that he does not wish to remain in Belgium unless there is full agreement with his requirements for his value.

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<p>From the purely personal point of view, he prefers living in New York where he has two people to whom he is deeply attached, his 15-year-old son and wife. Recently divorced, he has made no bones about being rather lonely in Belgium and wishes to settle his personal life as soon as possible. This would naturally be welcome to see his son, remarry and bring his new wife back to Brussels. It is agreed that he will work here. He is indeed so anxious to see his son and fiancee that he is prepared to pay his own round trip to New York. It is estimated to cost \$1000.00 for each trip. Both the Station and the agent favor this trip (and now rather than later) because:</p>		
<p>a. the REDSKIN training season should begin in May.</p>		
<p>b. there is now no priority work for AEGASSOWARY/29 which cannot be postponed for one month.</p>		
<p>c. From the security point of view, now is a good time to leave for a while (the agent has not told his spotters that Belgium will be the center of his activities).</p>		
<p>d. the new wife could be of decided use to him also, for various types of operational support: secretarial, stenographic, translating, counter-surveillance, creating rapport with Ukrainian wives who are married to Belgians and intend to travel to the Ukraine. (Either a minimal hourly wage or a small monthly boost in AEGASSOWARY/29's own salary ought to cover this.)</p>		
<p>12. It is the firm opinion of the writer that AEGASSOWARY/29 did not expect when he came to miss his son and fiancee to the degree he does now. He seemed fully prepared to stay for six months when he arrived and made no mention of either until early February. Probably the dismal weather, his gloomy living quarters and lack of human companionship have not been accompanying factors.</p>		
<p>13. Before closing it would be appropriate to add that due consideration has been given to Brussels' recommendation to keep AEGASSOWARY/29 on PDR as long without which has a genuine degree of interest, background, understanding and courage. ITT/TE seems only [] has these characteristics. The problem is not in direct touch with him and there are several difficulties on this score. Until operations regarding AEGASSOWARY/29 home and work, the use of PDR would probably complicate rather than help out, operationally. It would, however, be one of the reasons why two years is felt to be a logical PDR term.</p>		
<p>14. This dispatch covers a great deal of ground in too haphazard a fashion. Unfortunately, it could not be written otherwise and make the 20 February pouch. Further details follow soonest. As Headquarters has undoubtedly known, the Soviet defector in Brussels has usurped some of our time to the disadvantage of correspondence on Project AERODYNAMIC. This situation is drawing to a close.</p>		
<p>15. Please cable approval on the proposed trip to New York. This Station does not know if there is any AEGASSOWARY/29ARY specifically operational benefit to be derived from his presence in New York, but would nevertheless like to recommend that, at the least, AERMEHIVE cover the cost of his new wife's travel to Brussels.</p>		
<p>23 February 1962</p>		
<p>Distribution:</p> <p>1 - [] 2 - [] 3 - []</p>		
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